

## Handy Guide to Conventions in LCT

This is to aid communication and ease knowledge-building through a shared language.

- ‘Legitimation Code Theory’ ALWAYS has capital letters, as do LCT dimensions: Specialization, Semantics, Autonomy. (Publishers and editors may need to be told this is a convention of the field)
- Names of single concepts (e.g. semantic gravity, epistemic relations, etc) do NOT have capital letters.
- Names of codes are plural: ‘knowledge codes’, ‘prosaic codes’, etc.
- The concepts ‘epistemic relations’ and ‘social relations’ are always plural.
- Names of two-word concepts always involve BOTH words, i.e. ‘semantic density’, not ‘density’, ‘epistemic relations and social relations’ not ‘epistemic and social relations’.
- ‘Knowledge/knower codes’ is NOT the name for ‘specialization codes’.
- ‘Legitimation codes’ is the name for ALL LCT codes; i.e. specialization codes, semantic codes, etc are all legitimation codes. They are referred to as ‘specialization (or semantic) codes of legitimation’ or just ‘specialization codes’ and ‘semantic codes’.
- Order: ALWAYS ER before SR; SG before SD, PA before RA.
- Symbols +/- and ↑↓ come AFTER each concept and NOT before, e.g. ER+, SR–.
- Separate strengths by a comma: ER+, SR– and SG+, SD–. Do not use a forward slash (e.g. ER+/SR–) because that means ‘embedded within’
- Symbols ‘+/-’ denote stronger / weaker or relatively strong / relatively weak (never strong/weak).
- Symbols ↑↓ are up and down arrows that indicate strengthening (↑) and weakening (↓).
- Strengthening or weakening does not necessarily change relative strength; e.g. strengthening something that was ER– does not mean it is now ER+. Changes can occur WITHIN a quadrant of the plane. One can combine +/- with ↑/↓. For example, ‘ER–↑–’ means ‘weaker ER that is strengthened but remains relatively weaker’.